

REMARKS

The present amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed July 28, 2005.

Status of the claims.

Claims 1-38, 64-65, and 94-95 are cancelled. Claims 39-63, 66-93, and 96-98 are pending. No new claims have been added.

Rejection Under 35 USC § 112

In the last paragraph of page 3 of the Office Action and in the first three paragraphs of page 4, the Examiner states that there is a lack of support in the specification for claims 64, 65, 94 and 95 which recite substrate binding domains of length between 12 and 100 nucleotides, or between 14 and 24 nucleotides. Applicants have cancelled claims 64, 65, 94 and 95, rendering the Examiner's rejection moot.

In the first paragraph of page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that claims 39-41 and 69-71 are also rejected under 35 USC § 112 for the very same reason. However, Applicants note that claims 39-41 and 69-71 are all independent claims and do not recite the specific features (binding domains of length between 12 and 100 nucleotides (or between 14 and 24 nucleotides) that the Examiner has stated lack support in the specification. For this reason, Applicants believe that the inclusion of these claims in the list of claims rejected for lack of support may have been included by mistake. If this assumption is incorrect, the Examiner is respectfully requested to specify the basis for the rejection of these claims under 35 USC § 112.

Respectfully submitted,


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